

PATENT

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/Claudia Bader/
Claudia Bader

July 13, 2011
Date

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. **EFFEP0101US**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	:	
	:	
Hannes P. Hofmann	:	Group Art Unit: 3742
	:	
Serial No.: 10/587,691	:	Examiner: Hung D. Nguyen
	:	
Filed: 27 July 2006	:	Confirmation No.: 7045

For: METHOD OF MANUFACTURING A CIRCUIT CARRIER AND THE USE OF
THE METHOD

VIA EFS
Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY BRIEF

Sir:

This Reply brief is submitted in connection with the appeal of the above-identified application. The Examiner's Answer was mailed on May 24, 2011, for which a two-month period for Appellants' Reply Brief is provided. Accordingly, the present paper is timely filed without extension of time. The Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences is respectfully requested to reverse all of the rejections of the

claims in the final Office Action mailed October 12, 2010, for the reasons set forth in the Appeal Brief as supplemented by the facts set forth herein.

Argument

All of the rejections of Appellants' claims are based on the primary combination of Clothier et al. (US 2002/0177006) in view of Asai et al. (US 6240636). Appellants respectfully submit that there is no combination of Clothier et al. and Asai et al. that could possibly have rendered obvious Appellants' claimed invention at the time it was made or, for that matter, at any time, absent the impermissible use of improper hindsight reconstruction, using Appellants' own invention as a guide. Even then, as Appellants have argued previously, the elements selected by the Examiner from Clothier et al. and Asai et al. for combination are not compatible and could not be combined in any way to obtain Appellants' claimed invention, contrary to the contentions of the Examiner.

Basically, the Examiner contends that it would have been obvious to have used the PCB of Asai et al. in the process of Clothier et al. and, contrary to the teachings and clear import of Clothier et al., to have retained the layers corresponding to the PCB obtained from Asai et al., rather than removing those layers as taught by Clothier et al.

In order to better illustrate the foregoing, Appellants have prepared three sets of drawings, each corresponding to one hypothetical scenario of possible combinations of the disclosures of Clothier et al. and Asai et al. These drawings and the associated explanations, presented in the following, clearly show that the rejections are erroneous and are unsupported by any substantial evidence, and so should be reversed.

The drawings present three scenarios, designated A, B and C, to show what the combination of Clothier et al. and Asai et al. would yield. These drawings show in the first two scenarios the combination of steps using the PCB of Asai et al. and performing the manufacturing method of Clothier on the Asai substrate. Each of the three scenarios refer to the layers and steps of Clothier et al., the contended addition of layers for the PCB of Asai et al., and indication of which of Appellants' claimed steps apply, down to the "?" in each sequence, which is emphasizes the fact that the final products of these sequences fail to correspond to Appellants' claimed invention.

The first two scenarios, A and B, simply differ regarding the type of PCB Asai et al. might teach: In a first Scenario A, the entire structure of the Asai et al. reference as shown in Fig. 1 (i) is used as the starting PCB. In a second Scenario B, only part thereof, namely the inner core, consisting of the inner resin layer 4 and the two inner wiring patterns (circuits) 3, is used as the starting PCB.

In each scenario A and B, the carrier foil 1 and conductive layer 2 of the structure of Clothier et al. have then been replaced by the respective PCB in each method step which Clothier et al. teach (Appellants' claimed method steps 2A through 2F).

As Appellants have repeatedly pointed out, it is, of course, beside the point to use the PCB of Asai et al. in the Clothier et al. method, instead of Clothier's carrier foil 1 and conductive foil 2, to form the Clothier et al. trenches on Asai's PCB. This is because both the carrier foil 1 and the conductive layer 2 of Clothier et al. are used as auxiliary tools in the manufacture of the circuit board. As is clear from Clothier et al., these two items 1 and 2 are subsequently removed during the manufacturing method, since they are in fact auxiliary tools and not intended to be part of the finished product. The fact, unreasonably relied upon by the Examiner, that Clothier et al. teaches that these layers "can be removed such as by etching in a suitable etchant" ([0036]) (see below regarding definition of "can"), does not and cannot possibly change the fact that Clothier teaches the removal of these layers, does not even suggest that such removal is optional, and in fact Clothier et al. removes these layers and clearly does not consider these two auxiliary tools or layers as being part of the finished board. To the contrary, the PCB provided in Appellants' claimed method step a) of the present invention constitutes a very important part in that it offers the solution to the problem of combining high complexity of the circuitry board and very fine line circuitry on the surfaces thereof which would, using conventional methods, not be economically justifiable.

Thus, the layers in Clothier et al. relied upon by the Examiner as corresponding to an integral part of Appellants' finished product in fact forms no part of any finished product according to the Clothier et al. teachings.

Therefore, it is quite clear that a person skilled in the art would never consider using the PCB of Asai et al. in the method of Clothier et al., because the functions of

the PCB of Asai et al. on the one hand, and of the carrier foil 1 and conductive layer 2 of Clothier et al., on the other hand, are completely different.

Furthermore, there would be no motivation to a person skilled in the art to provide vias at any of the method steps 2A through 2E of Clothier et al. (corresponding to method steps (a) through (f) of the present invention) because Clothier teaches providing vias in method step 2M. Therefore, further via formation in an earlier process stage is unnecessary.

Furthermore, the sequence obtained when the PCB of Asai et al. would be used in the method of Clothier et al. shows that the PCB would have finally to be removed (in method steps 2G, 2H). Therefore, providing the PCB of Asai et al. in the method of Clothier would of course be beside the point because the main motivation to use the PCB is to use it in the circuit board and not to remove it prior to its use.

Even if the skilled person would, in an alternative Scenario C, consider starting with a PCB of Asai et al. (with one insulating resin layer 2 and copper foil 1 on one side only, which is not in fact disclosed by Asai et al.), then provide the structure having the dielectric 3 and the metal 5 of Clothier to the PCB and subsequently generate the vias as shown in Fig. 1 of Asai et al. to be formed in the metal layer 1 and dielectric 2 of Asai et al., the skilled person would not arrive at the claimed invention since, according to present claim 1, the vias and trenches are formed in the same dielectric whereas according to this Scenario the vias are formed in another dielectric than the trenches. The vias would in this Scenario be formed in the conventional PCB which does not make any sense because this PCB has conventionally been manufactured and is provided with all electric connections required so that no further vias are required to be generated therein, whereas vias shall be generated in the dielectric 3 of the structure shown in the Clothier reference.

Further, as to the allegation the Examiner makes regarding the misreading of Clothier in that Clothier would teach that the removal of the base 1, 2 would be optional, we point to the additional fact, that Clothier cannot be read in this manner because, taking Clothier as it is, i.e., with a carrier foil 1 and conductive layer 2 as the base, the removal thereof is necessary. This is because, if these items would be left in the structure being formed in the steps 2A through 20, the through vias would *have* to pierce through these two layers 1, 2 and then create a short between the circuit features formed, as noted under item "Fourth" on pages 12, 13 of the Appeal

Brief. Therefore, a person skilled in the art could not understand the removal to be optional but instead clearly understands this *removal* to be mandatory. The only optional aspect of the removal is the actual method used, e.g., the etching by a suitable etchant, which is mentioned by Clothier et al., or some other suitable method known to the person of skill in the art.

Because, as shown by the attached drawings, the PCB of Asai et al., if inserted into the process disclosed by Clothier et al., could not and would not obtain Appellants' claimed invention, it cannot have been obvious, at the time the invention was made, to have done what Appellants have done and claimed in the pending claims. While the words tortuously may be aligned as set forth in the Office Actions and rejections therein by the Examiner, in reality, when the structures are considered in accordance with the teachings of Clothier et al. and Asai et al., the combination cannot and would not have been made by any person of ordinary skill in the art. Therefore, the presently claimed invention would not have been obvious over Clothier et al. in view of Asai et al., with or without any additional references.

Finally, in view of the Examiner's continued reliance on the clearly erroneous contention that the use of the "can" in [0036] of Clothier et al. in the phrase "the carrier foil 1 can be removed such as by etching in a suitable etchant" means that removal of these layers is optional, Appellants submit herewith the dictionary definitions of the words "can" and "may", as shown in the Random House Dictionary of the English Language ("the dictionary"). Clearly, in view of the correct meaning and use of "can", this is not an optional step.

As is well known, and as shown in the dictionary in the English language, the word "can" denotes the power or ability to do something, whereas "may" refers to probability, possibility or permission. Thus, the use of "can" means that the carrier foil 1 is able to be removed by etching in a suitable etchant, not that the carrier foil 1 is permitted to, i.e., may or may not, be removed by such etching. Note, in particular, in the dictionary, the definition 2 of "may": (used to express contingency, especially in clauses indicating condition, concession, purpose, result, etc.), and the definition 3 of "may": (used to express possibility, opportunity, or permission). If Clothier et al. had used the word "may", then the Examiner's argument would have some weight. However, Clothier et al. used the word "can" and, as shown by the foregoing, the Examiner's argument has no weight at all, and is a completely

incorrect interpretation of the disclosure of the first sentence of [0036] of Clothier et al. The Examiner's interpretation of this sentence would effectively rewrite the disclosure of Clothier et al., and this cannot be allowed to happen since it is contrary to law.

Accordingly, Appellants respectfully urge the Board to reverse the rejections of the presently pending claims and to remand the application to the Examiner for issuance of a notice of allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

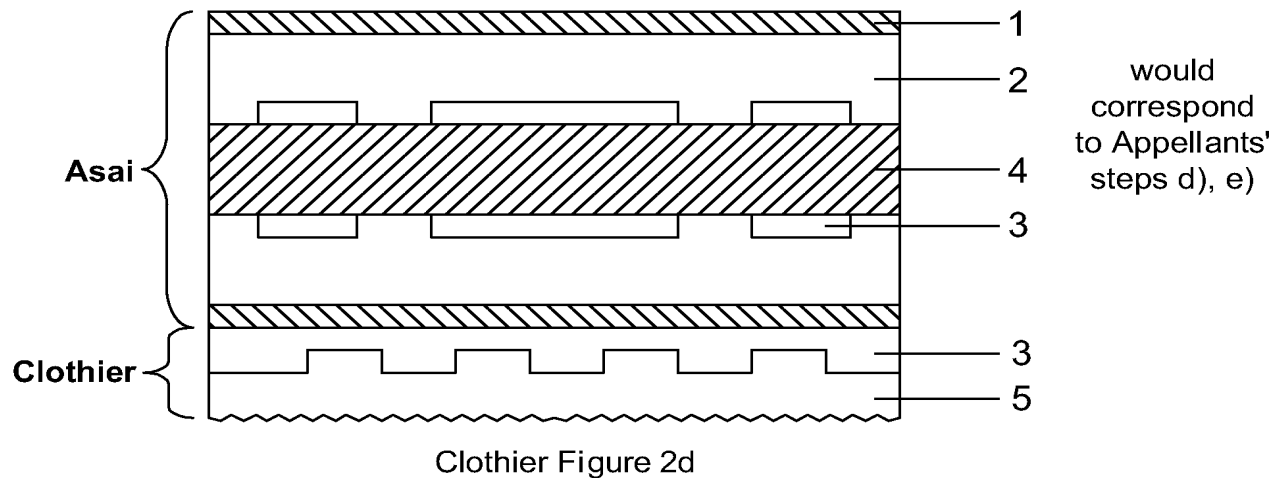
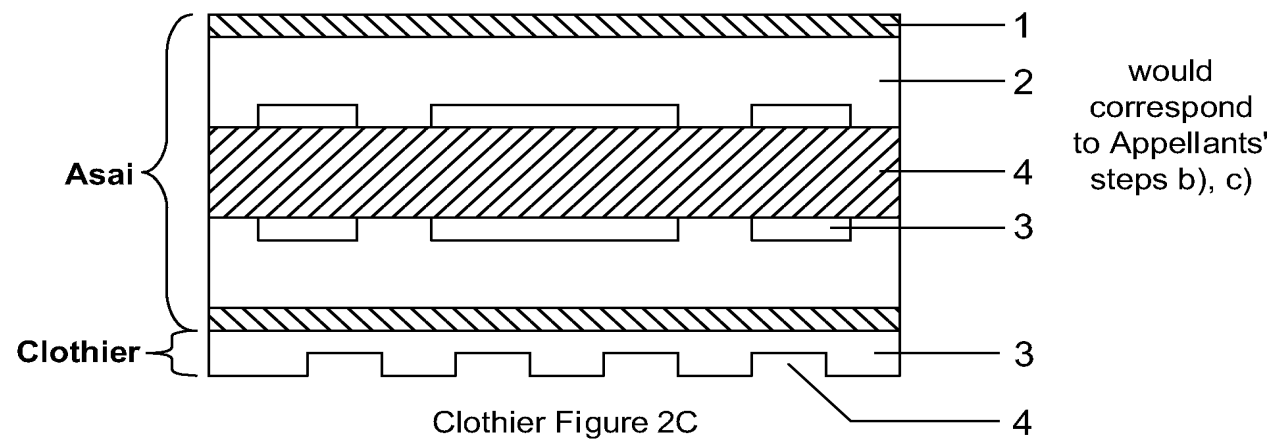
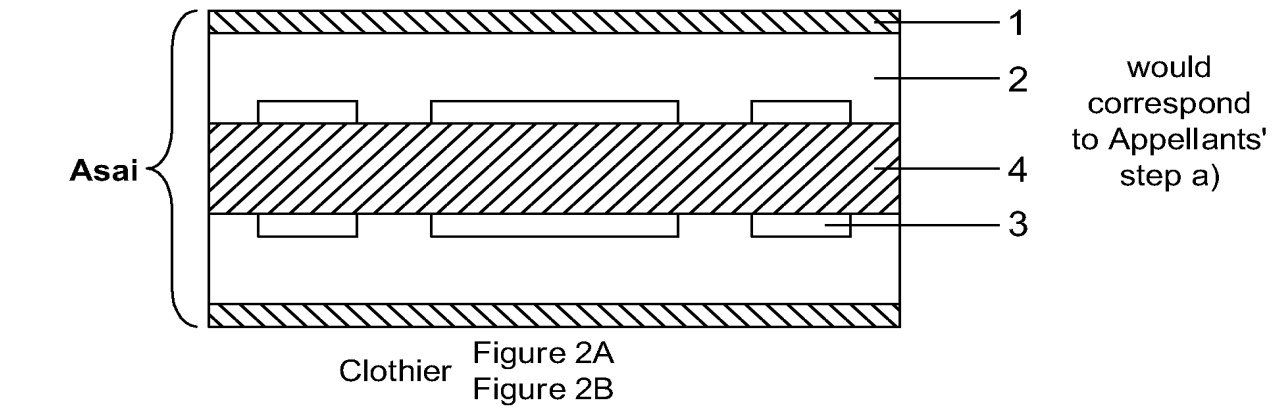
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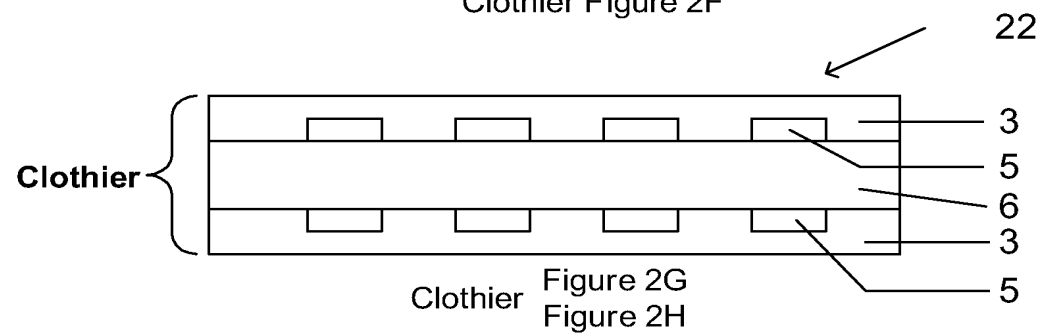
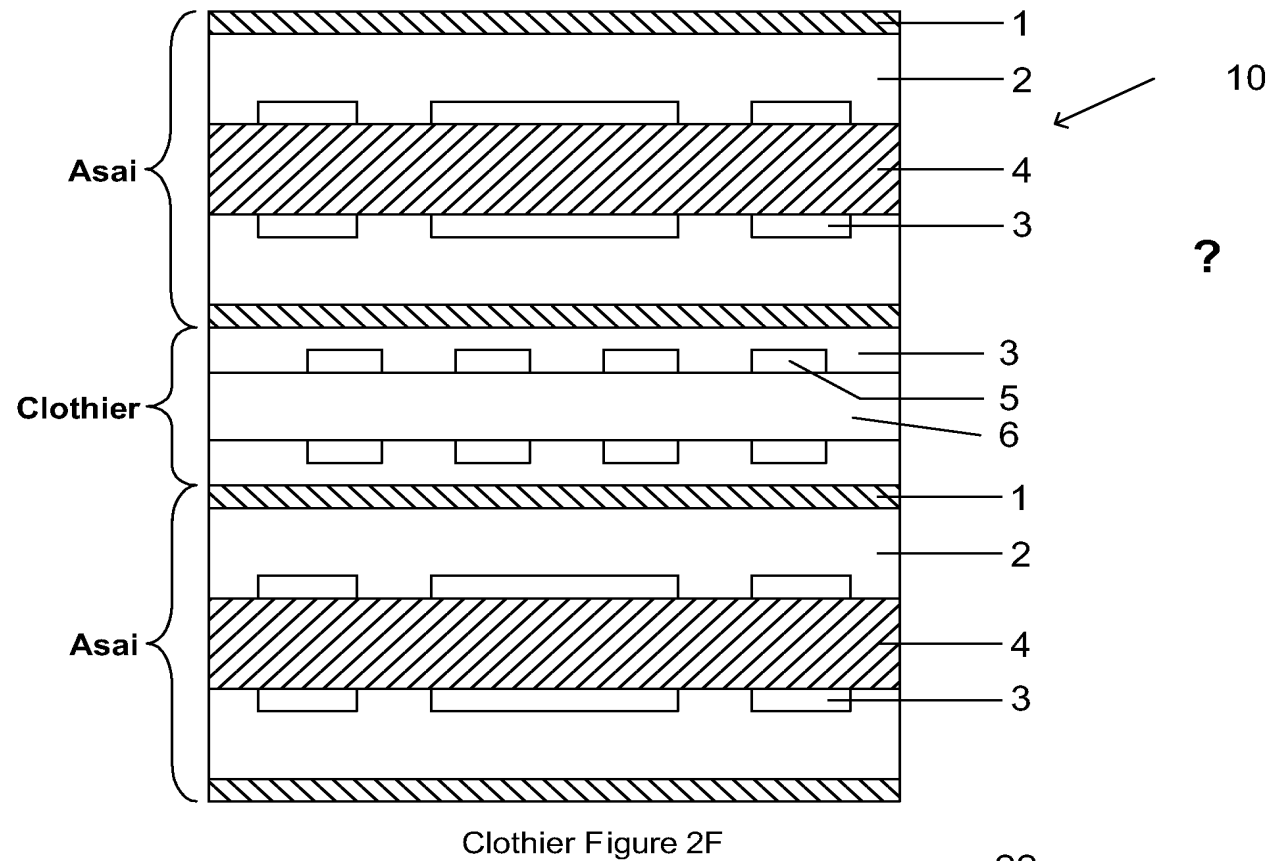
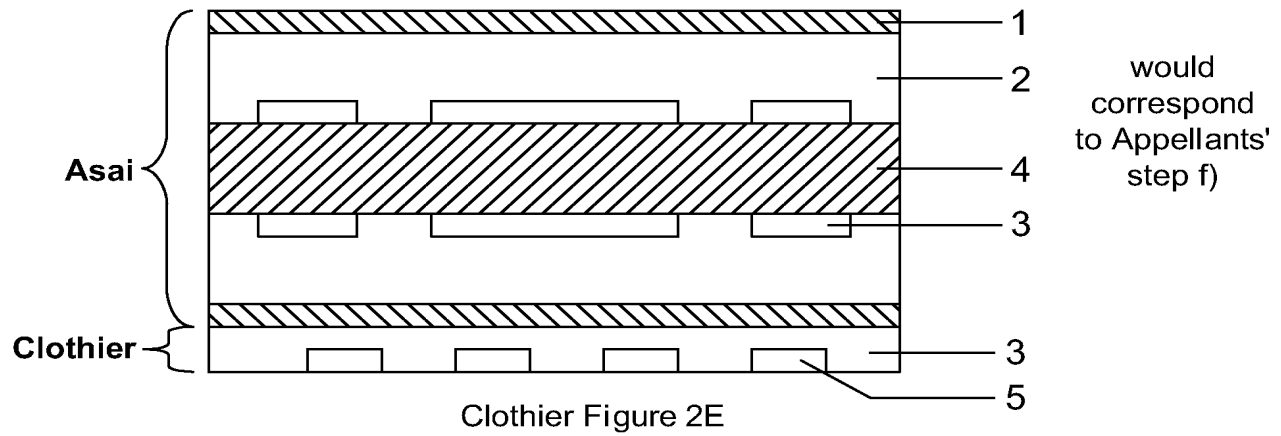
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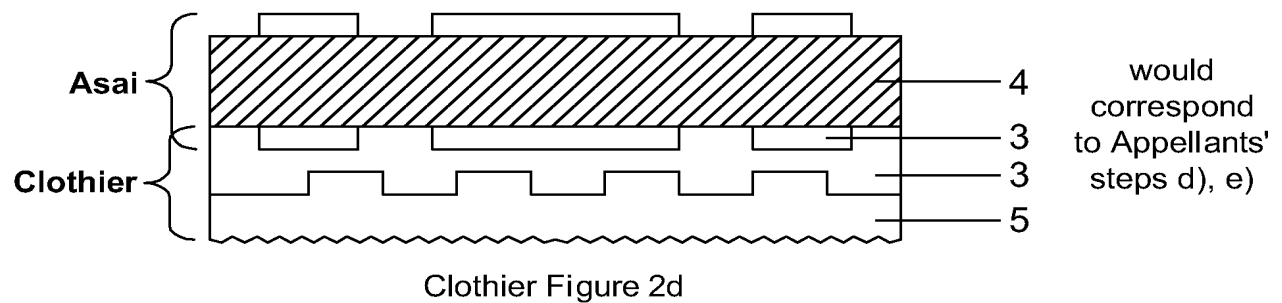
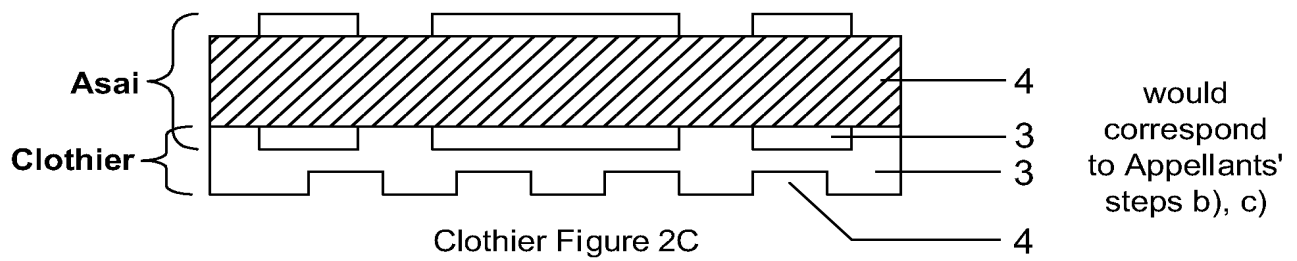
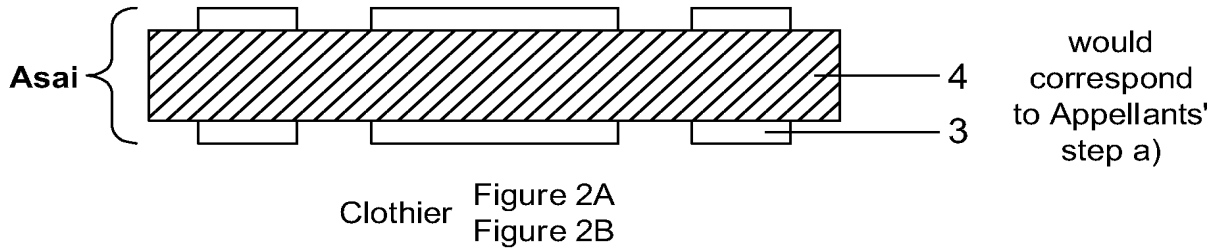
Scenario A



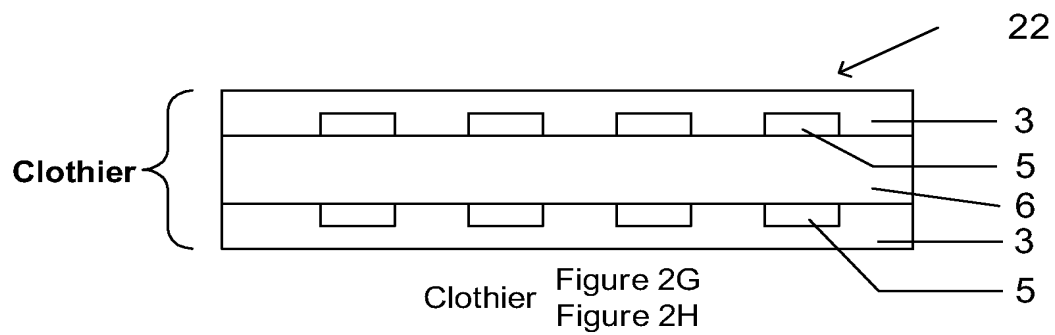
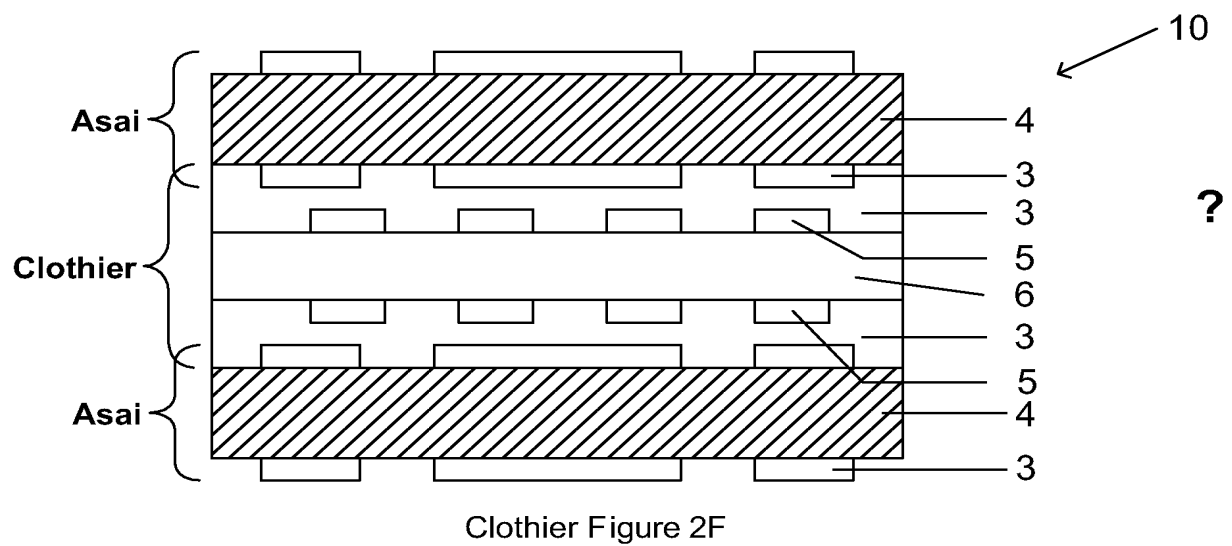
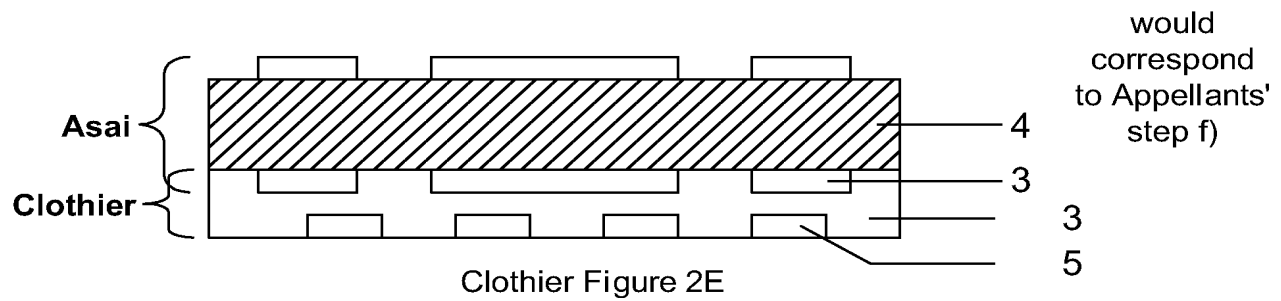
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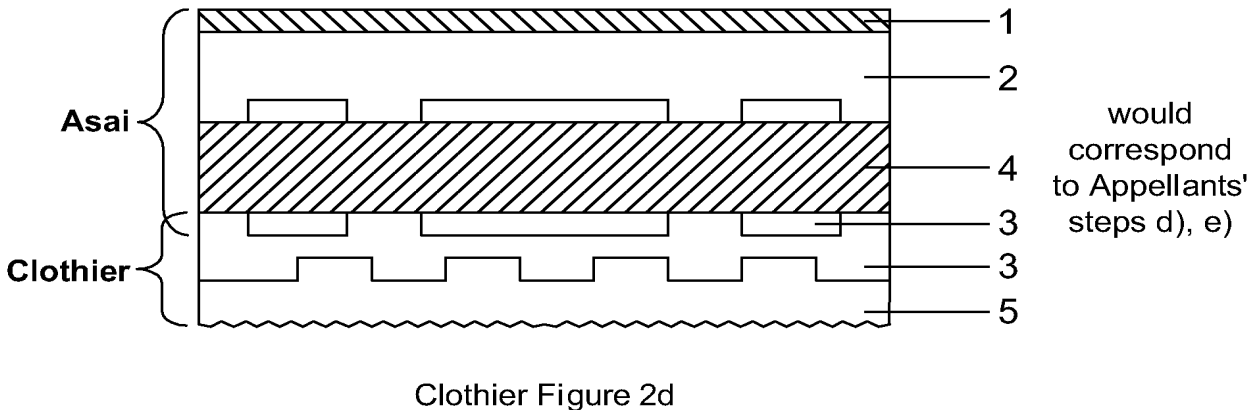
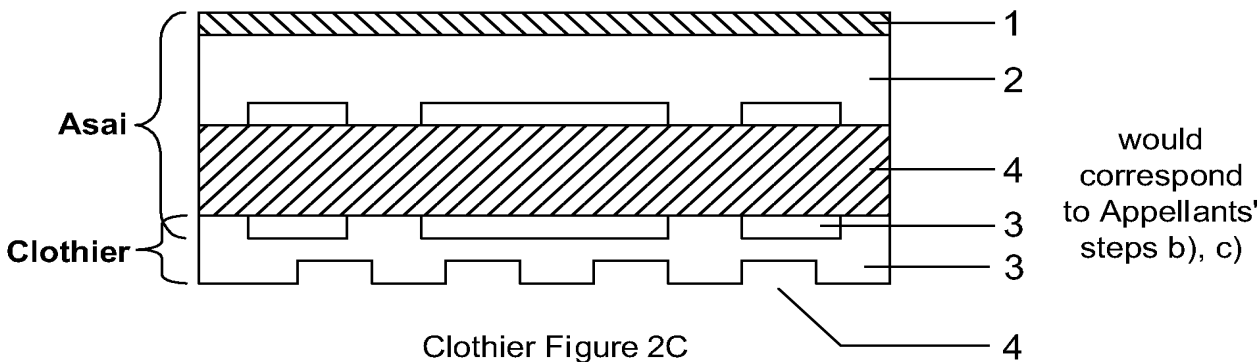
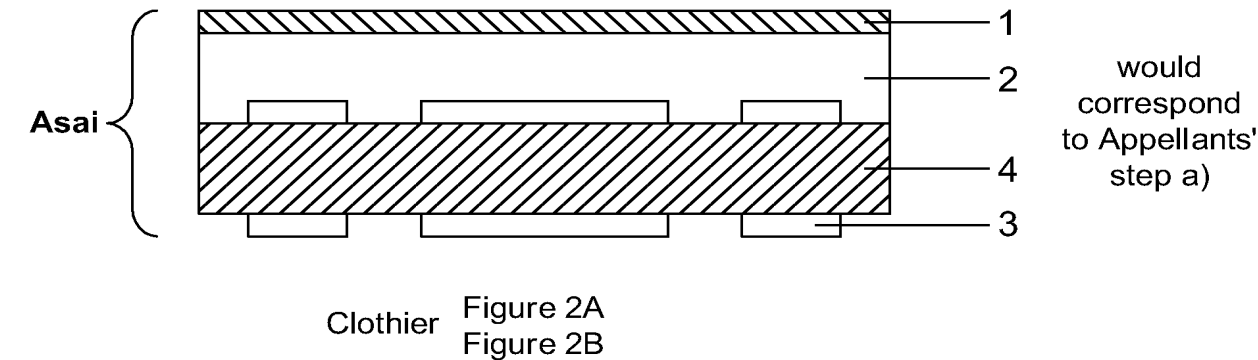
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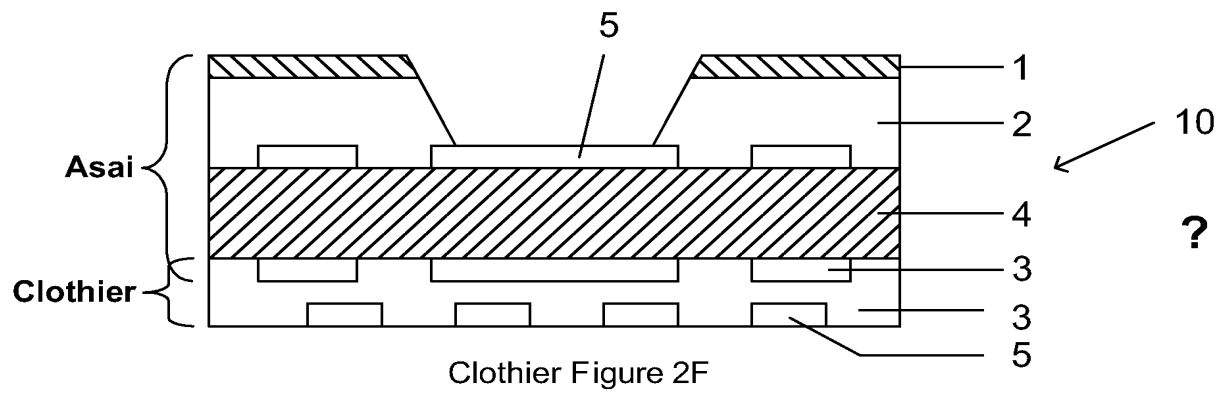
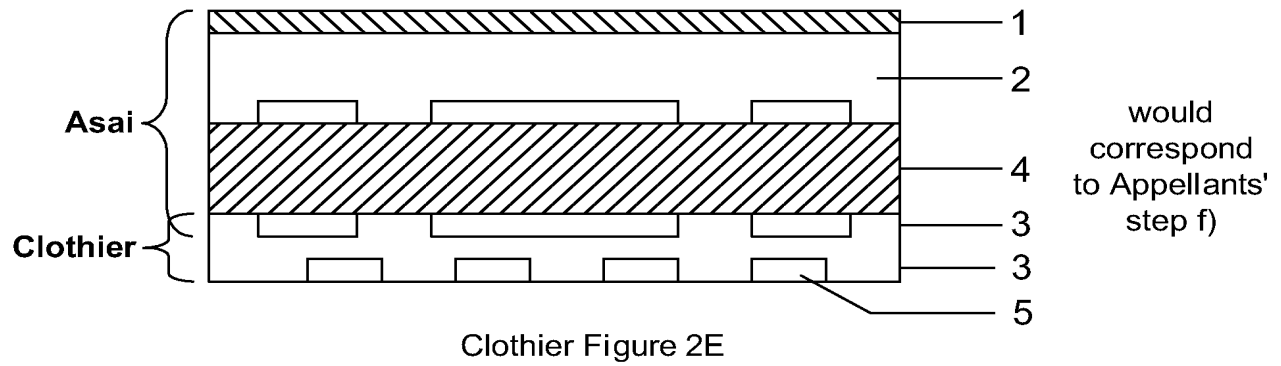
Scenario B (cont'd)



Scenario C



Scenario C (cont'd)

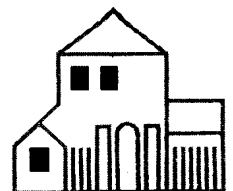


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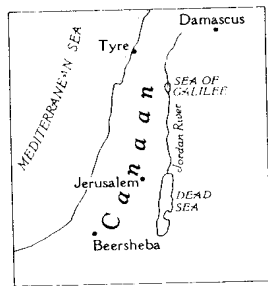
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Brit. Dial. a. a doll, puppet, re built to resemble a human person who seems to have a life. 2. *Obs.* an idol; a false god. 3. special use of *Mahomet* was thought to be an object of worship. *Scot.* must. Also, if Icel man must, shall, will! *kā/ə, mō/nə kē/ə*, and of Hawaii 13,784 ft. *ā/ə, mō/nə*, an active word, 13,880 ft. *Heraldry.* manche. Also,

of weight in India and other things according to locality: in 180 pounds (the latter being < Hindi man < Skt manā)

1. to talk in a rambling, 2. to move, go, or act in a way. *He wandered through [7] —maun/der-er, n.* the ceremony of washing memorizing Jesus' washing sundy Thursday. 2. Also only distributed as alms in many of maundy or on maundy < OE *mande* < L *mande* (from the opening of Jesus' words to ashed their feet). See MAN-

the Thursday of Holy Week, the Supper and His washing at day.

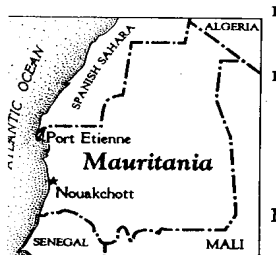
it; *Fr. mō pa sūn/*, *n.* *ty de (ān rē rō nē)*, Al-nich short-story writer and

given name, Irish form of

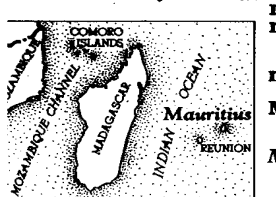
a girl's given name, Irish *mau-rine/*.

ā/ə, *n.* an ancient kingdom the territory that is of Algeria. Also, Mauri-*adj.*, *n.*

Fr. François (frān swā/), Nobel prize 1952. *mō rēs/*; for 3 also *Fr.*



ā/ə, *n.* 1. Official name, *ritania*, a republic in W Desert; formerly a French



dependencies, formerly a 2); 809 sq. mi. *Cap.*: Port *ince.* —*Mau-ri/*tian, *adj.* giant lily.

Fr. Mauro.

André (ān drā/), (*Emile* 1885–1967, French biogra-

1. 3; *mou/rē* for 2), *n.* 1. */, fon/tān*, 1806–73, U.S. 2. a walled plain in the the moon: about 12 miles

a member of an ancient thern India and established *lau/ry-an, adj.*

Paul, 1838–1914, and his German inventors of fire-

n. -zē-, *n.*, *pl. -le-ums*, and magnificent tomb.

alcarneus in Asia Minor *nders of the World*, [*k* mb of Mausolus, king of

town in central Wisconsin.

ish purple. 2. a purple dye vered in 1856; the first of the color of mauve: a *w* < L *maiva* MALLOW]

's as a social and cultural perity and complacency. *v/rik*, *n.* 1. *Southwestern* or steer, esp. an unbranded

mother. 2. a dissenter, or a politician, who takes om his associates. [named

after Samuel A. *Maverick* (1803–70), Texas pioneer who neglected to brand his cattle]

ma-vin (mā/vān), *n.* an expert, esp. in everyday mat- ters. Also, *ma/ven*. [*< Yiddish < Heb: connoisseur*]

ma-vis (mā/vīs), *n.* *Brit. Chiefly Poetic.* a song thrush. [*ME* *mayvis* thrush < MF *mauvis* < ?]

Ma-vis (mā/vīs), *n.* a girl's given name.

Ma-vors (mā/vōrs), *n.* *Rom. Religion.* Mars.

ma-vour-neen (mā vōr/nēn, -vōr/-, -vōr/-), *n.* *Irish English.* darling; dear. Also, *ma-vour/nin*. [*< Ir mo mhúirín*]

maw¹ (mō), *n.* 1. the mouth, throat, or gullet of an animal, esp. a carnivorous mammal. 2. the crop or craw of a fowl. 3. the stomach, esp. that of an animal. 4. a cavernous opening that resembles the jaws of an animal: the gaping maw of hell. 5. the symbolic or theoretical center of a voracious hunger or appetite of any kind: the ravenous maw of Death. [*ME* *mawe*, OE *magā*; c. D *maag*, G *Magen*, Icel *magi*]

maw² (mō), *n.* *Dial.* mother. [var. of MA]

maw-kin (mō/kin), *n.* malkin.

maw-lish (mō/kish), *adj.* 1. having a faint sickly flavor; slightly nauseating; insipid. 2. characterized by sickly sentimentality; feebly emotional. [*Obs. mawk* maggot (late ME < Scand; cf. Icel *mathkr* maggot) + -ish]. See MAGGOT] —*maw/ish-ly, adv.* —*maw/ish-ness, n.*

Maw-son (mō/sən), *n.* Sir Douglas, 1882–1958, Australian antarctic explorer, born in England.

Max (maks), *n.* a boy's given name, form of Maxi-

milian.

max., maximum.

max-i (mak/sē), *n.* 1. maxiskirt. —*adj.* 2. of the length of a maxiskirt. [by shortening]

Max-ile (mak/sē), *n.* a boy's given name, form of Max. Also, *Maxy*.

max-il-la (mak sil/ə), *n.*, *pl. max-il-lae* (mak sil/ə), 1. a jaw or jawbone, esp. the upper. 2. one of the paired appendages immediately behind the mandibles of arthropods. [*< NL*, special use of L *maxilla* lower jaw, dim. of *māla* (earlier **maxila*) upper jaw, cheekbone]

max-il-lar-y (mak/sē lar/ē, mak sil/ə rē), *adj.*, *n.*, *pl. -lar-ies*. —*adj.* 1. of or pertaining to a jaw, jawbone, or maxilla. —*n.* 2. a maxilla or maxillary bone. [*< L maxillā* (is) of, belonging to the jaw. See MAXILLA, -ARY]

max-il-lip-ed (mak sil/ə ped/), *n.* one member of the three pairs of appendages situated immediately behind the maxillae of crustaceans. [*MAXIL(A)* + -i + -PED] —*max/il-lip-ed-a-ry, adj.*

max-im (mak/sim), *n.* 1. an expression of a general truth or principle, esp. an aphoristic or sententious one: the maxims of La Rochefoucauld. 2. a principle of conduct: It was his max-im never to give a sucker an even break. [*ME* *maxime* < ML *maxima* (orig. in phrase *maxima propositio* axiom, lit., greatest proposition), fem. of L *maximus*, superl. of *magnus* great; see MUCH] —*Syn.* 1. aphorism, saying, adage, apothegm. See proverb.

Max-im (mak/sim), *n.* 1. Hiram Percy, 1869–1936, U.S. inventor. 2. his father, Sir Hiram Stevens, 1840–1916, English inventor, born in the U.S. 3. Hud-son, 1853–1927, U.S. inventor and explosives expert (brother of Sir Hiram Stevens Maxim).

Max-im (*Fr. mak sēm/*; *Russ. mak ksem/*), *n.* a boy's given name, form of Maximilian.

max-i-ma (mak/sə mā), *n.* a pl. of maximum.

max-i-mal (mak/sə māl), *adj.* of or being a maximum; greatest possible; highest. [*MAXIM(UM)* + -AL] —*max/i-mal-ly, adv.*

max-im-al ide-al, *Math.* an ideal in a ring which is not included in any other ideal except the ring itself.

Max-i-mal-ist (mak/sə māl-ist), *n.* a member of an extremist group or faction of socialists. Cf. Minimalist. [*MAXIMAL* + -IST]

Max-imes (*Fr. mak sēm/*), *n.* (*Réflexions ou sentences et maximes morales*) a collection of paradoxical, cynical maxims and gnomic reflections (1665) by La Roche-foucauld.

Max-im gun/, an early single-barreled, water-cooled machine gun cocked by the force of its own recoil.

Max-i-mil-i-an (mak/sə mil/yan), *n.* 1. 1832–67, archduke of Austria; emperor of Mexico 1864–67. 2. Also, *Max*, *Maxim*, a boy's given name.

Maximilian I., 1459–1519, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire 1493–1519.

Maximilian II., 1527–76, emperor of the Holy Roman Empire 1564–76.

Max/imil-i-an armor, full plate armor of the early 16th century, representing a combination of Italian and German styles and characterized by extensive use of fluting for lightness and strength.

max-i-min (mak/sə min), *n.* a strategy of game theory employed to maximize a player's minimum possible gain. Cf. minimax. [*MAXIM(UM)* + MIN(IMUM)]

max-i-mise (mak/sə miz/), *v.t.* -mised, -mis-ing. *Chiefly Brit.* maximize. —*max/i-mi-sa/tion*, *max/i-ma-tion, n.* —*max/i-miz'er, n.*

max-im-ite (mak/sə mīt/), *n.* *Chem.* a powerful explosive consisting primarily of picric acid. [named after Hudson Maxim; see -ITE]

max-i-mize (mak/sə miz/), *v.t.* -mized, -miz-ing. to increase to the greatest possible amount or degree: He maximized his importance in the program, minimizing the contributions of the rest. Also, esp. *Brit.*, *maximize*. [*MAXIM(UM)* + -IZE] —*max/i-mi-za/tion*, *max/i-ma-tion, n.* —*max/i-miz'er, n.*

max-i-mum (mak/sə mēm), *n.*, *pl. -mums, -ma* (-mā), *adj.* —*n.* 1. the greatest quantity or amount possible, assignable, allowable, etc.; the highest amount, value, or degree attained or recorded (opposed to minimum): They increased the speed of the car to the maximum. 2. *Math. a.* Also called relative maximum, local maximum. the value of a function at a certain point in its domain, which is greater than or equal to the values at all other points in the immediate vicinity of the point. Cf. absolute maximum. *b.* the point in the domain at which a maximum occurs. —*adj.* 3. that is a maximum;

greatest possible; highest: maximum satisfaction. 4. pertaining to a maximum or maximums. [*< L, n. use of neut. of maximus*, superl. of *magnus* great, large] —*max/i-mum-ly, adv.*

max/imum like/lihood estima/tion, *Statistics.* a method of estimating population characteristics from a sample by choosing the values of the parameters which will maximize the probability of getting the particular sample actually obtained from the population.

max/imum prin/ciple, *Math.* the theorem that a function of a complex variable that is analytic in a domain and on its boundary attains its maximum absolute value on the boundary. Also called *max/imum mod/ulus prin/ciple*.

max/imum thermom/eter, a thermometer designed to show the highest temperature recorded between resettings. Cf. minimum thermometer.

Max-ine (mak sēn/, mak/sēn), *n.* a girl's given name.

max-i-skirt (mak/sē skūrt/), *n.* a long skirt or skirt part, as of a coat, dress, etc., ending below the middle of the calf but above the ankle. Also, *maxi*. [*MAXI(MUM)* + SKIRT; modeled on MINISKIRT]

Max Müller (maks mul/er; *Ger. mäs my/lər*), *Friedrich* (frē/drik; *Ger. frē/drik*). See Müller, Friedrich Max.

max-well (maks/wəl, -wel), *n.* *Elect.* the centimeter-gram-second unit of magnetic flux, equal to the magnetic flux through one square centimeter normal to a magnetic field of one gauss. *Abbr.*: Mx Also called line. [named after J. C. MAXWELL]

Max-well (maks/wəl, -wel), *n.* 1. Elsa, 1883–1963, U.S. professional hostess and author. 2. James Clerk (klārk/), 1831–79, Scottish physicist. 3. a boy's given name.

Max/well-Boltz-mann statis/tics (maks/wəl-bōltz-mān, -mān, -wel), *Physics.* statistics for classical physics, based on the assumption that in a given physical system consisting of indistinguishable particles and regions, all possible arrangements of the particles in the various regions have equal probability. [named after J. C. MAXWELL and Ludwig BOLTZMANN]

Max/well de-mon, *Physics.* a hypothetical agent or device of arbitrarily small mass that is considered selectively to admit or block the passage of individual molecules from one compartment to another according to their speed, constituting a violation of the second law of thermodynamics. [named after J. C. MAXWELL]

Max-y (mak/sē), *n.* a boy's given name, form of Max.

May¹ (mā), *v.*, *pres. sing.* 1st pers. may, 2nd may or (Archaic) may-est or mayst, 3rd may; *pres. pl.* may or may might. 1. (used to express wish or prayer): May you live long. 2. (used to express contingency, esp. in clauses indicating condition, concession, purpose, result, etc.): I may be wrong, but I think you would be wise to go. Times may change, but human nature stays the same. 3. (used to express possibility, opportunity, or permission): It may rain. You may enter. 4. *Archaic.* (used to express ability or power.) [*OE* *mæg*, 1st and 3rd pers. sing. pres. ind. of *magan*, C.G. *mögen*]

—*Syn.* 3. See can¹.

may² (mā), *n.* *Archaic.* a maiden.

May (mā), *n.* 1. the fifth month of the year, containing 31 days. 2. the early part of one's life, esp. the prime: a young woman in her May. 3. the festivities of May Day. 4. (*l.c.*) *Brit.* the hawthorn. 5. Also, *Mae*, *Mai*, a girl's given name. —*v.i.* 6. (*l.c.*) to gather flowers in the spring: when we were maying. [*ME*; OE *Maieus* < L, short for *Maieus mēnsis* Maia's month]

May (mā), *n.* Cape, a cape at the SE tip of New Jersey, on Delaware Bay.

maya (mā/yā, -ya), *n.* *Hinduism.* 1. the power, as of a god, to produce illusions. 2. the production of an illusion. 3. (in Vedantic philosophy) the illusion of the reality of sensory experience and of the experienced qualities and attributes of oneself. 4. (*cap.*) Also called *Mahamaya*, a goddess personifying the power that creates phenomena. [*< Skt*] —*ma/yan, adj.*

May-a (mā/yā), *n.*, *pl. -yas*, (*esp. collectively*) -ya. 1. a member of an Amerindian people of Yucatán who had attained a relatively high pre-Columbian civilization. 2. the historical and modern language of the Mayas, of Mayan stock.

May-a-güez (mā/yā gwēs/), *n.* a seaport in W Puerto Rico. 50,147 (1960).

May-a-kov-ski (mā/yā kōf/ski), *n.* *Vla-di-mir Vla-di-mi-ro-vich* (vlā dē/mīr vlā dē/mī ro vich), 1893–1930, Russian poet. Also, *May-a-kov/sky*.

May-an (mā/yān), *adj.* 1. of or pertaining to the Mayas. —*n.* 2. a member of the Mayan tribe. 3. a linguistic stock of southern Mexico, Guatemala, and British Honduras, including Maya and Quiché, and probably related to Penutian. [*MAX(A)* + -AN]

May/ap-ple, 1. a perennial American herb, *Podophyllum peltatum*, bearing an edible, yellowish, egg-shaped fruit. 2. the fruit itself. Also called *Indian apple*.

may-be (mā/bē), *adv.* perhaps; possibly: Maybe I'll go too. [late ME *may be*, short for *it may be*]

May-beck (mā/bek), *n.* Bernard, 1862–1957 U. S. architect.

May/bee-tle. See June bug (def. 1).

May-blob (mā/blob/), *n.* See marsh marigold.

May/Day, the first day of May, long celebrated with various festivities, as the crowning of the May queen, dancing around the Maypole, and, in recent years, often marked by labor parades and political demonstrations. [late ME] —*May/-day/, adj.*

May-day (mā/dā/), *n.* the international radiotelephone distress signal, used by ships and aircraft. [*< pseudo-F m'aidez* help me]

May-yence (ma yāns/), *n.* French name of Mainz.

May-yenne (ma yen/), *n.* a department in W France. 250,030 (1962); 2012 sq. mi. *Cap.*: Laval.

May-er (mā/or for 1; mī/or for 2), *n.* 1. Louis B(ur)t (bōrt), 1885–1957, U.S. motion-picture producer, born in Russia. 2. Maria Goepp-pert (gō/pert), born 1906, U.S. physicist, born in Poland; Nobel prize 1963.

may-est (mā/ist), *v.* *Archaic.* 2nd pers. sing. pres. indic. of may.

May-fair (mā/fār/), *n.* a fashionable locality in London, England, E of Hyde Park.

may/fair tan/. See sun tan (def. 2). [after MAY-FAIR]

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